



**TOWN OF UXBRIDGE
BOARD OF SELECTMEN**
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Jill R. Myers
Town Manager

MEMORANDUM

TO: Honorable Board of Selectmen

FROM: Jill R. Myers, Town Manager

DATE: October 6, 2006

SUBJECT: Town Manager's Report for the BOS Meeting of October 10, 2006

Attached are the September, 2006, monthly Department Head reports.

Stanley Woolen Mill: At 8:54 a.m. on 10/6/06, the Fire Department responded to a call as the sprinklers were activated while work was being conducted by private contractors onsite. According to the workers, the rear portion of the building had tremored and slightly shifted which may have caused a pipe to burst and activate the sprinklers; it did not collapse. The building was evacuated and posted for no entry by order of the Town Inspector of Buildings and the State Building Inspector. All utilities have been shut off and the property has been fenced by the owner to prevent entry. The owner's engineer was onsite and will present a structural engineering report to the Inspector of Buildings.

Lavallee Land Purchase Update: We received a response on 10/2/06 to our comments on the purchase and sale agreement. Staff visited the site on 10/2/06 to review the gravel operations in relation to the plans submitted for the gravel permit in 2001. There is a discrepancy in one area relating to final elevations of excavation versus what was originally submitted by their Engineer. A follow-up meeting is scheduled for 10/10/06.

Zoning violations/complaints: I have a meeting scheduled with Jim Farrar of The Habitat on 10/10/06 to present him with recent correspondence from Town Counsel in response to the complaint received.

The Police Department has continued to monitor an area at the end of Bailey Street for alleged motocross activity. According to the most recent report, Sgt. Burke checked the area over the weekend on the 4-12 shift and did not see any activity. The Police Department will monitor the situation but at this time believe the information is outdated. Concerned citizens should be encouraged to contact the Police Department during the times that violations are occurring.

My office also received a written complaint concerning New England Sandblasting which is located behind Uxbridge Auto at 406 N. Main St. It is alleged that they sandblast all kinds of tankers, including oil tankers. It is also alleged that they sandblast outside without the use of proper reclamation equipment or filter of the waste sand. It was reported that there are Northbridge School Buses that park at LW Welding that are often covered with the sandblasting residue. I have forwarded this complaint to the Police Department, Fire Department, Board of Health and Building Inspector and asked for their review and comments.

Blanchard Project: Within the next week, a local painter will be onsite to complete the priming of exposed boards at the Blanchard School. This will protect these boards through the winter months and until we can make a determination about how to complete the exterior painting project.

Budget Preview: The *PowerPoint* presentation has been updated since the meeting of 9/30/06 and forwarded to the Website Committee for posting.

Website/Transparency in Government: The question was raised this past June/July by Howard Fortner and again during a recent BOS meeting about the ability to access/alter files posted on the Town website. I have confirmed with the Website Committee that all documents on the Town's Website are and have always been read-only, "pdf" files with the recent exception of two forms provided by the Finance Committee: Reserve Fund Transfer Request and Town Meeting Article Template, which are Word documents specifically meant to be used as templates by and/or for submissions to the Finance Committee.

Desks from Blanchard: Staff has confirmed that the desks previously located at the Blanchard School were loaded into a dumpster by workers from the House of Correction and disposed of during the last dumpster removal.

ZBA resignation as a full member: Due to time constraints, Mr. John Higgins submitted a request to remove himself from the permanent position he currently holds on the Zoning Board of Appeals and switch places with Mr. Mark Wickstrom who currently holds an Alternate position. I have approved this request.

Pole Hearing of 10/5/06: National Grid is proposing to install two new poles in the public way to feed one new customer at 283 Aldrich Street. I approved this request.

Recreation Committee Meeting of 9/28/06: Committee members noted the need for additional Town DPW staff to maintain the fields, the need to widen or address the entrance at the Sutton Street Field and possibility of a donation of in-kind services of a skilled mason to do the work, but that they will seek permission from the BOS prior to acceptance, and questions about insurance coverage and waivers needed.

Health Insurance Quotes: Our Benefits Consultant, Kevin Walsh is seeking quotes from all carriers, including MIIA and potential joint purchase groups, as noted at the Insurance Advisory Committee meeting of 5/5/06. The RFP went out on 10/4/06 and responses are due on 11/1/06. Once the quotes are received, they will be presented to the IAC.